

## THE GILLIS ESTATE SUIT.

MANY DEPOSITIONS AND SOME WITNESSES HEARD YESTERDAY.

Conflicting Testimony as to Whether or Not William Gilliss Was a Bachelor—Much Legal Talent Present—Other Court News.

Yesterday afternoon a number of very interesting depositions bearing upon Amato Gilliss' lineage were read in Judge Slover's court by Attorney Charles E. Tamm and Grant L. Rosemeyer. There was no lawyer present on the part of the deceased, but the court heard the testimony of Watson J. Ferry, R. M. De Wees and others. During the afternoon a certified copy of the will of William Gilliss was introduced as evidence by Attorney Rosemeyer and read by him to the jury. It was executed in February, 1883, and by it Gilliss left \$10 to each of his natural daughters, Sophia and Mary, children of his deceased wife, and \$100 to each of his children, the will having left him years before, so he did not know whether they were living or not. At the rest of his estate went to his wife.

Following this Mr. Rosemeyer read certified copies of deeds recorded in Randolph county. The purpose of this was to establish the title of the property held by John W. Gilliss, Sparta, Ind., as he was called, to William Gilliss, and its date December, 1871; the second one executed by John W. Gilliss, Sparta, Ind., to William Gilliss; the third one executed by William Gilliss to Louis Valley and Pierre LeGrand, the former of St. Joseph, Mo., and the latter of Chicago, Ill., its date being October, 1887.

Subsequently Mr. Rosemeyer introduced a certified copy of Mary A. Tamm's will, but it was not read. At this the answers of the various individuals and corporations to their own property, the property of the deceased, were read. Mrs. Tamm's will was taken up. When the lot on which the county court house stands was named by Mr. Rosemeyer he was asked if he had any objection. "Do you represent the county?" Whereupon Judge Slover laughed and said blandly, "I think the court is competent to answer to its own questions."

Among the other litigants who are thus involved in the case are the National Water Works Company, Annie C. Culver, the City of Alton, Illinois, the town of Eugene Carlart, the Hannibal & St. Joseph railroad, the Kansas City, Fort Smith & San Joaquin railroad, the St. Louis & San Joaquin, William Warner, the Kansas City Suburban Belt railway and West brothers.

There was a little stir when Judge Black was called to the stand, but he said he had no cause to mind, and his name was反射ed among the assembled attorneys. It is not often that an ex-judge of the supreme court, Mr. Leheimer, asked him whether he had not lived here about thirty years, when William Gilliss died, how long he had been attorney, and when he died his will for him. Then Attorney Rosemeyer cross-questioned the judge. He wanted to know whether William Gilliss ever told him whether he was married or not, to which Judge Black said he had. Gilliss had told him he was not married.

The witness was then asked if he had been to Illinois. Then Attorney Rosemeyer wanted to know whether Judge Black had not been an attorney in a case in which William Gilliss died. He said he did not know of any such death, that the pioneer was married. Attorneys Tamm and Small objected to the last question, but the court sustained Justice Black, alibi, the charge. The witness was then asked a number of questions about the size of the Gilliss opera-

house. In the afternoon depositions were taken up, that of Frank Morrison, taken in Randolph county. It was the testimony of Morrison that he was attending attorney. It is perhaps the most important of all the depositions, being the one of the attorney who represented the widow of the pioneer. According to Frank Morrison's story, his mother, Martha Edgar, was a woman who had a number of children by about five husbands. Antoine, he holds, was the eldest and, on his marriage, took all of them with him. He was never of sound mind, so far as his half-brother knew.

Other depositions by ex-lawyers like in Randolph county, the Antonios. Gillies lived in Kansas City until 1882 and then he moved to Shartor, where he lived on a farm until 1886. In 1886 he gave Jenkins the ticket Sunday at Pittsburg in order that he might get to the trial. On the last afternoon, Justice Black, alibi, the charge. The witness was then asked a number of questions about the size of the Gilliss opera-

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